

# Big 12 plot thickens with developments

Conference had chance to be saved from realignment, former commissioner says

By Sameer Bhuchar  
Daily Texan Staff

DALLAS — If it were all about maximizing revenue, the Big 12 as it had existed until two years ago may have been saved, said former Big 12 Commissioner Dan Beebe.

“If they had done what I had advocated for two years ago, then I don't think any of the institutions, including Nebraska or Colorado would have had any reason to cite the reasons they did to leave,” Beebe said.

In an interview with The Dai-

ly Texan, Beebe said college sports world's two-year obsession with conference realignment was a snowball effect starting with the Big Ten and Pac-10 conference's desires to expand. The perception of instability in Beebe's Big 12 that followed led to a constant round of speculation as to which pieces in the conference would fall next. Beebe maintains that, had schools given his policy a shot as well as waited for his assessment of the Longhorn Network, Texas' controversial \$300 million television deal with ESPN, the conference had the ability to remain stable.

“My first year in the conference, I advocated for more equitable revenue sharing, and also two years ago I advocated for sharing me-

dia rights more, or at least defining which rights the conference had to sell and which ones the institutions maintained,” he said. “Unfortunately [the original Big 12 teams] didn't take those actions.”

Then why didn't the other schools just agree to his plan and save two years of headache? Beebe said the Big 12 was one of the few conferences that wanted to give schools the right to broadcast some of its own games. This is why its teams were able to move around so easily, because unlike in the other conferences where the television rights were handed to the conference leaders, the schools in the Big 12 had more power.

“It was against how the Big 12 always operated, where the commis-

sioner had to go negotiate a deal first and the schools would decide

BEEBE continues on PAGE 10



Dan Beebe  
Ex Big 12 Commissioner

Texas Christian University excited to accept invitation to join Big 12 Conference

By Jillian Bliss  
Daily Texan Staff

TCU athletic officials announced Monday night the Horned Frogs will fill an open slot in the Big 12 Conference.

The TCU Board of Trustees unanimously approved the invitation to join the conference, and the Horned Frogs will be reunited with the Longhorns on July 1, 2012, as both teams formerly played in the Southwest Conference from 1923 to 1996.

“I think it's a homerun,” said Texas head football coach Mack Brown.

“[TCU] has won as much as anybody. They were the Rose Bowl champs last year and have been to a couple BCS games as of late, so I think they're very deserving. I know our staff will be excited about it, and I think our players will be excited about it.”

TCU formerly announced acceptance of an invitation to move to the Big East in November 2010, but opted to join the Big 12 after the Big East was reduced to six football schools when Syracuse and Pittsburgh revealed they were headed for the ACC. Missouri has also considered a move to the SEC.

The Horned Frogs, who beat Wisconsin in the 2011 Rose Bowl to cap off a 13-0 season last year,

TCU continues on PAGE 8

## TODAY

### Calendar

**Going ape**  
Professor Emeritus Claud Bramblett will discuss the science of scenes from “Planet of the Apes” and “Project Nim” at 6 p.m. in WEL 1.308.

**Business time**  
The McCombs School of Business will seek input from students about future tuition. The forum begins at 5 p.m. in GSB 2.120.

**‘Soul Meets Body’**  
Death Cab for Cutie will play a set with Telekinesis at the Austin Music Hall. Tickets start at \$37.50 and doors open at 7 p.m.

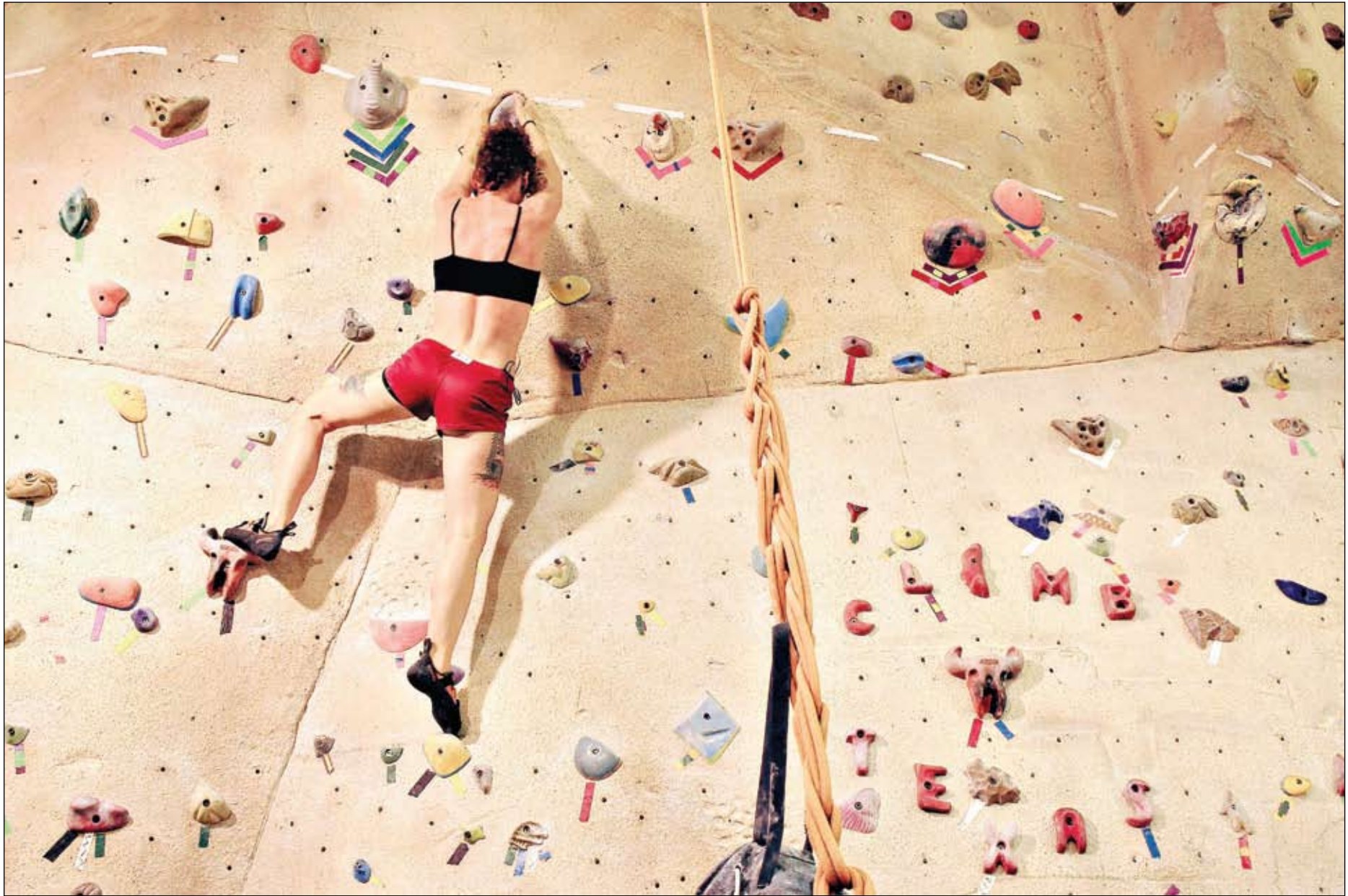
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**Quote to note**  
The enforceability of human rights has been very difficult. Border patrol has harassed many Latino citizens and legal residents.

— **Timothy Dunn**  
Salisbury University, sociology professor

## JUST HANGIN' AROUND



Pu Ying Huang | Daily Texan Staff

To keep her outdoor climbing skills intact, biochemistry senior Angela Edwards practices at Gregory Gym's rock wall for the first time Monday afternoon. Students new or experienced to the sport may purchase day or semester bouldering passes either online or in GRE 2.200.

## Author remembers role of feminists in Chicano Movement

By Nicole Sanseverino  
Daily Texan Staff

Three coffins bearing the inscription “rest in peace” and a life-size doll with a noose around its neck displayed in front of her office were only some of the ways men intimidated Anna Nieto Gomez, former female leader of the United Mexican American Students at CSU Long Beach.

Nieto Gomez's story is one of many that UCLA professor Maylei Blackwell includes in her newly released book “¡Chicana Power! Contested Histories of Feminism in the Chicano Movement,” which she discussed on Monday at the Center for Mexican American Studies in the Student Activities Center.

Through a series of oral histories, Blackwell tells the “real” story, asserting that women were active in the 1960s Chicano civil rights movement but are largely left out of documented history.

“Women played a tremendous and central role in the struggles for civil rights and in many of the histories written, the men often get more credit,” said Deborah Paredez, director for UT's Center for Mexican American studies.

Blackwell said she spent 20 years sifting through archives, following paper trails and talking with Chicana women to create the first book-length account of women's involvement in the movement.

CHICANA continues on PAGE 2

## Foreigner helped launch Chinese punk

By Brianna Pelayo  
Daily Texan Staff

UT alumnus and current high school physics teacher David O'Dell is not usually the one to bring up the subject of Chinese punk rock, but if asked, he would be able to explain in detail how he helped start the Chinese punk rock genre.

O'Dell talked about the coming-of-age for Chinese punk rock at a presentation featuring his new book “Inseparable: The Story of Chinese Punk Rock” on Monday.

“The book's titled ‘Inseparable’ and it's because the development of the punk rock scene and my arrival in China and helping put together the scene, were actually so intertwined,” O'Dell said. “My personal time in Beijing and the Chinese punk rock scene were almost one in the same. I helped start the first shows and helped develop the first band before there were any other foreigners in the underground music scene.”



Pu Ying Huang | Daily Texan Staff

Former punk band member David O'Dell shares excerpts from his new book “Inseparable: The Story of Chinese Punk Rock.”

Beginning in 1995 he helped start two bands with an unknown word and genre called “punk,” and now there is an entire Chinese genre of punk, O'Dell said.

“We kind of started the punk revolution and ignited the punk scene,” O'Dell said. “This is what the book is about. I wrote about that development.”

To begin his presentation, O'Dell started with a reading from the prologue of his book and proceeded to various excerpts throughout it. After reading an excerpt from his book he would then play a song from the first and second-generation

PUNK continues on PAGE 2



# THE DAILY TEXAN

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## TOMORROW'S WEATHER

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**Low**  
**67**

99% of the couches are held by 1% of the basement. OCCUPY COMICS

# Learning center moves into undergraduate studies school

**By Rachel Thompson**  
**Daily Texan Staff**

The Sanger Learning and Career Center recently moved into the School of Undergraduate Studies, but it has already been aiding students by providing resources and staff to help freshman and other students struggling with academics.

The center, located in Jester West, was previously part of the Division of Student Affairs and is a recent addition to the UGS. The center works closely with UGS and other colleges on campus. It not only provides tutoring and academic counseling, but also assistance with exploring graduate school and career options.

"We see about three-fourths of the freshman class each year," said Sanger Learning and Career Center director Alan Constant. "Primarily, we focus on courses first-year students will take."

Constant said the center's most popular services are the tutoring services, which serve over 3,000 students every year. Sanger offers both appointment tutoring and drop-in tutoring, available for many mathematics and natural sciences courses.

"I think it's really helpful," said freshman Karen Sanchez, a frequent visitor to Sanger. "Especially if it's your freshman year, when you're kind of lost and don't know where to go."

Tutor Jenny Chen, a Plan II and economics junior, said that tutoring is most beneficial for students who are already working hard to excel.

"Sometimes the student says, 'Thank you, that helped me so much,'" said Chen, who tutors calculus, economics and statistics. "But it depends on the student and how much they're investing in the class."

The center gives students the opportunity to schedule tutoring sessions to refresh their skills throughout the semester and final exam review sessions towards the end of the semester, Constant said.

Supplemental instruction is another service offered by the center. Constant said this program trains teaching assistants and adds discussion sections to large classes. He also said it's one of the largest programs and one that many students aren't aware of.

While Constant said many of the center's programs are focused on first and second-year students, he also mentioned

“

*We try to meet students from the time they arrive on campus all the way through their graduate careers.*

— Alan Constant, center director

”

the programs for upper division and graduate students, including the PLUS program, in which upper-division students are trained to lead study groups, and the graduate writing service.

"We try to meet students from the time they arrive on campus all the way through their graduate careers," he said. "If we don't have what they need, we'll find someone on campus who can help."

## PUNK continues from PAGE 1

Chinese punk rock bands. "The presentation is me telling their story," O'Dell said.

"It's about the Chinese musicians and their music, the clubs, the venues and the people that helped to make the scene what it is today."

During the presentation, translations of the lyrics to the bands' songs were displayed on a screen, an uncommon thing to see, according to O'Dell.

UT was the first stop on O'Dell's book tour. He will soon go to Houston and New York to give similar presentations telling the real story about the coming of Chinese punk rock.

"The most important thing is for people to learn about Chinese punk rock because I want the story to be correct," O'Dell said. "I feel that I saw something incredibly special in the people I was with and I wanted to remember that, and I wanted to make sure others remembered how it really started because no one really knows."

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Fanny Trang | Daily Texan Staff

Maylei Blackwell, assistant professor at UCLA and author of "Chicana Power! Contested Histories of Feminism in the Chicano Movement," presents her first book at the SAC on Monday.

## CHICANA continues from PAGE 1

"If we only tell the great male narrative, we do a disservice to the memory of the acts of greatness from everyday people, like the thousands and thousands of Chicanos and Chicanas who spoke out," Blackwell said.

Feminism started right at the heart of the movement rather than later on, Blackwell said.

Anna Nieto Gomez said she contested the male-dominated Chicano movement by breaking off from it and helping create the Hijos de Cuauhtémoc, one of the first Latin American feminist organizations.

The word "Chicano" means "the people," Nieto Gomez said, but she soon realized that the Chicano goals were only for men.

"There was so much hate, it forced the Chicanas out of the Chicano movement," she said. "The movement failed us."

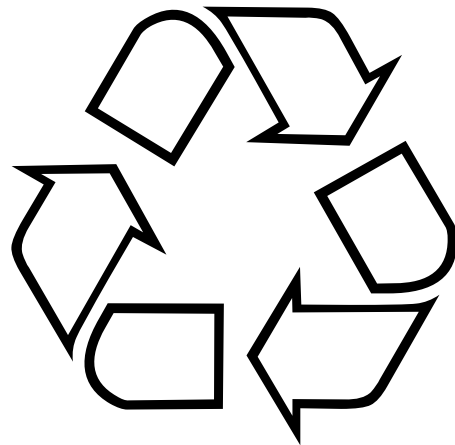
Mexican-American ethnic studies junior Marianna Anya said

things have changed since Nieto Gomez's time, but not by much.

"I don't think a lot of people recognize that because they say 'Oh, racism is so over and so back in the day,' but we live it every single day," Anya, cofounder of La Colectiva Femenil, a campus organization for Chicanas, said.

At the event Nieto Gomez challenged historical documents that suggest the "Chicana doesn't want to be liberated" and told students to continue collecting Chicana stories and documents in order to combat stereotypes that they didn't significantly contribute to the movement.

"We didn't have a place in Chicano male-dominated places, but we also didn't have a place as women of color," Anya said. "Even among white feminists we don't have a place, so that is why we formed La Colectiva Femenil, so that we can have these conversations."



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THE DAILY TEXAN

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**Matt Dunham** | Associated Press

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## VIEWPOINT

## The dropout paradox

Last week, the world mourned the loss of Steve Jobs to pancreatic cancer. Unlike many other well-known figures, Jobs' direct and indirect contributions to society are every bit tangible. He's the reason the song "You've Got a Friend in Me" gets stuck in our head and, consequently, the reason we can pull out a 32-gigabyte testament to human ingenuity to listen to it over and over again. Jobs was an innovator, a visionary and, of course, a college dropout.

That didn't stop Reed College, the destination of Jobs' semester-long postsecondary rendezvous, to unveil an honoring of one of its "most visionary former students" on its website.

This kind of phenomenon takes place at UT as well. Last year, the Texas Exes — which, for that matter, does not limit its membership to alumni or even former UT attendees — revealed a list of Extraordinary Exes in celebration of its 125 years of existence. Longhorn legends such as Dell-founder Michael Dell, broadcaster Walter Cronkite, businessman Red McCombs, NBA star Kevin Durant, Olympic gold medalist Mary Lou Retton, Charlie's Angels icon Farrah Fawcett, former Texas Lt. Gov. Ben Barnes and former U.S. Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn all fall short of being traditional alumni.

And this illustrates higher education's dropout paradox: that a university's poster children of success may be the same poster children that critics point to when those individuals are reduced to a number or a percentage of the "did not graduate" persuasion. While their achievements may be boundless, they stand equally degree-less.

Some may point to the paradox as a way to illustrate the insignificance of a university education. After all, it seems as though college was simply a roadblock on their paths to greatness. Yet this assumption misses the well-documented influence universities had on many of the aforementioned dropouts' successes.

Jobs, in his famous commencement speech at Stanford in 2005, talked about how after dropping out, he stayed at Reed for another 18 months to audit classes. Without the shackles of prerequisites, he credited a calligraphy class he attended as the reason for the Macintosh's revolutionizing "multiple typefaces and proportionally-spaced fonts."

Dell and notable Harvard dropouts Bill Gates and Mark Zuckerberg launched their industry-transforming companies from their campus dorm rooms. According to his biography, "A Reporter's Life," Cronkite wrote for The Daily Texan and said his first time in front of a microphone was reciting sports scores for UT's then-radio station, KTUT. Before becoming private investigator Jill Munroe for millions of ABC viewers in the late 1970s, Fawcett modeled for students and faculty at UT's art department, which got her noticed by several publications. Durant led the Big 12 in points and rebounds in the 2006-07 basketball season that solidified his status as the second-overall pick in the 2007 NBA draft.

Though seemingly non-traditional, these situations simply illustrate what universities have always done best, which is to serve as resource centers for society. Universities serve as points of collaboration, boasting pockets of world-class expertise and resources in very specific areas.

However, what Texas' recent higher education controversy has shown is the inherent difficulty in translating the intangible benefits of being a resource center into tangible, measurable outcomes. Having a premier conglomeration of top experts in the history of American foreign policy or housing the archives of David Foster Wallace are difficult to measure in dollar, cents and productivity hours.

This is at the root of the push to increase graduation rates. Institutions have significant administrative discretion to create policies that push students to graduate on time. Pledging to increase four- and six-year graduation rates is essentially an agreement between the University and the state that says, "We'll promise to take care of this as long as you promise to leave us alone."

The University's real focus should be on finding avenues for students and the community to tap into and contribute to the institutions' rich resource centers. UT's Intellectual Entrepreneurship Consortium is a leader in experimenting with creative programs to connect students to those resources, but it would require greater support for it to flourish. The Texas Center for Education Policy works to bridge the gap between community and academia but is more of an exception than the norm. Engagement initiatives like these would enhance and broaden the student experience at the University and better equip it on its mission to work for the betterment of society.

Jobs and his dropout colleagues listed above happened to tap into the university resources that changed their lives — as well as all of ours. Jobs finished his Stanford commencement speech by quoting the last words published in the Whole Earth Catalog: "stay hungry, stay foolish." Students come into the university with both hunger and foolishness. Let's not let that go to waste.

— Shabab Siddiqui for the editorial board.



Stephanie Eisner | Daily Texan Staff

## City politics stifles student voters



By Samantha Katsounas  
Daily Texan Columnist

While many UT students geared up for a trip to Dallas on Friday, Austin's City Council made a controversial and highly questionable decision regarding a seemingly innocuous topic: election dates. Instead of moving the 2012 municipal elections to November, the council voted 4-3 to keep them in May. The highly symbolic move significantly limits the principle of democracy in Austin while simultaneously creating a de facto limitation on the student vote.

A new state law allows for cities to move their municipal elections from May to November. The arguments in favor of such a move are numerous and incontrovertible. In the last city council election, an abysmal 7.4 percent of registered Austin residents voted, according to city data. In stark contrast, November elections in Travis County have consistently seen voter turnout above 30 percent. It would make sense that elected officials would be in support of an opportunity to engage more citizens in voting during municipal elections. However, four of our council members apparently disagree.

Mayor Pro Tem Sheryl Cole and council members Bill Spelman, Kathie Tovo and Laura Morrison have cited concern over violating Austin's charter as the reason for their opposition. Cole said that a vote "against the charter provision" would go against her mandate as an elected municipal official in Austin, according to the Austin American-Statesman. However, this reasoning is blatantly illogical. SB 100, the state resolution that legitimizes the move, specifically declares that the state law "supersedes a city charter provision that requires a different

general election date."

So why are these four council members still opposed when their stated rationale is patently illegitimate? To be fair, they have expressed a desire for formal voter approval, but the issue is much more complicated than it seems. According to the Statesman, Spelman argued recently that "we're not doing [voters] any favors" by moving the election to November, implying that the electorate doesn't endorse the switch. In actuality, a poll by Littlefield Research proved that 75 percent of traditional Austin municipal voters support the November election. How can a measure that involves more citizens in the decision-making process and is overwhelmingly supported by those same citizens do a disservice to the population? As is the case in most matters concerning elections, it seems the culprit is political ambition.

The feigned concern about the charter seems to be merely a symptom of self-interest on the part of some council members. Austin's so-called political "elites" have traditionally wielded considerable power in May elections. It turns out that support from these Democratic clubs and organizations is "key to the prospects of Sheryl Cole and Bill Spelman," who are considering running against current Mayor Lee Leffingwell next year, according to the Statesman.

Their refusal to move the election to November can be seen as a political move calculated to undermine Leffingwell. It's a travesty of democracy when dissatisfaction with a mayor, whether justified or not, supplants the desire to enhance the level of public involvement in elections.

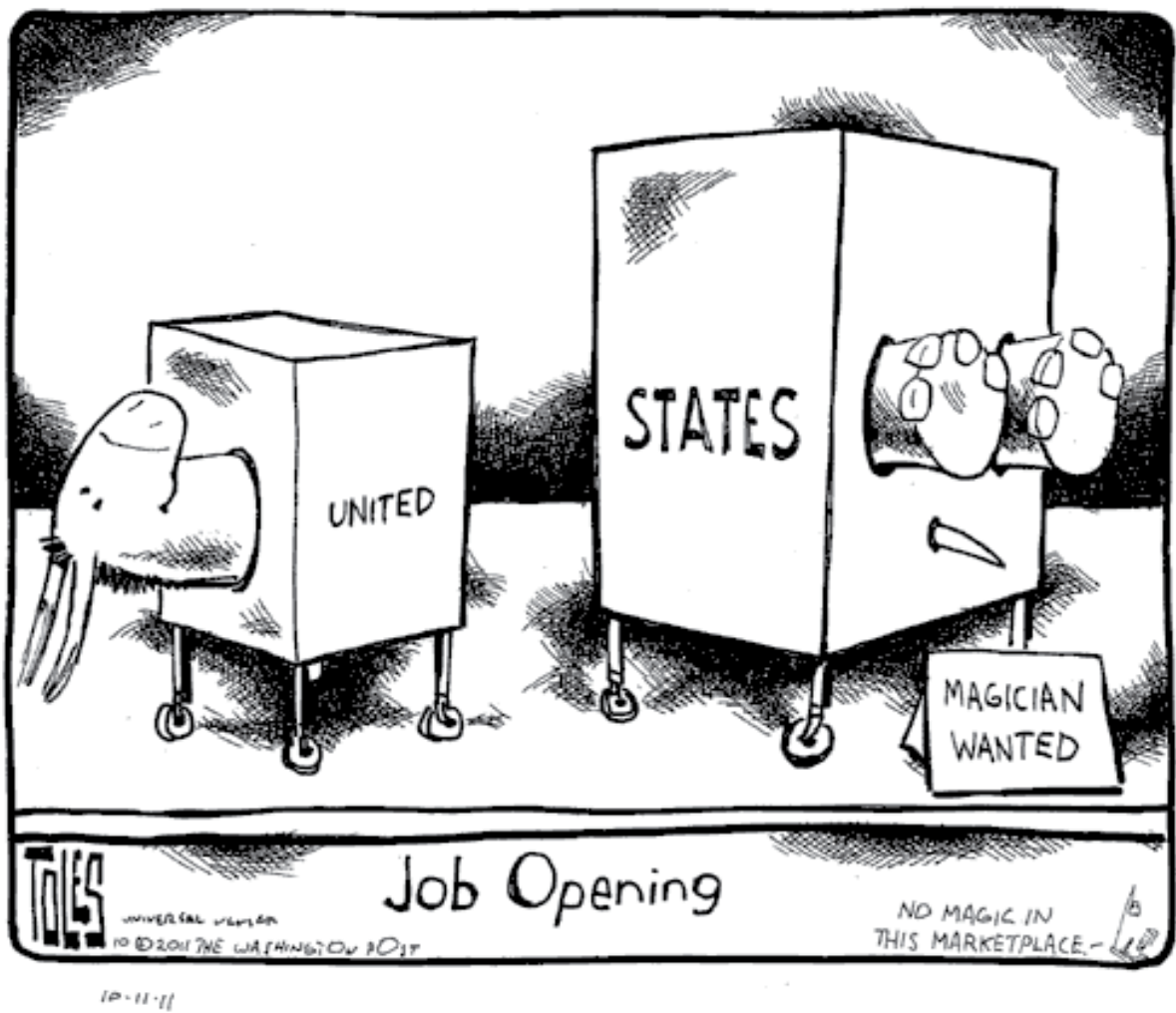
For students, the issue is of particular concern. Currently, the May elections fall during finals week. College students, usu-

ally sleep-deprived and singularly-focused during their exams, do not have the opportunity to participate in elections as they might if the election were at another time. Likewise, any possible run-off elections take place during June, a time when most students go back home or are away on vacation. Moving the election to November would substantially increase the number of students able to vote.

Moreover, keeping the election in May is not just damaging to democracy and voter involvement generally; it is also economically negligent. Refusing to move the election to November will cost the city around \$1 million in new voting equipment, said Travis County clerk Dana DeBeauvoir, according to Community Impact Newspaper. Just a few months ago, massive cuts were made to many city programs because of a lack of funding. Paying extra money to have fewer people vote is an idea that has rightfully been described by Leffingwell as "fiscally irresponsible."

The hard facts in favor of the November election heavily outweigh the arguments made by proponents of the status quo. Keeping municipal elections in May during 2012 will preserve low levels of voter turnout and cost the city money. Councilwoman Laura Morrison wrote in a Statesman column last week, "There is no compelling or pragmatic reason" to shift the election date. If saving money and involving more people in voting are not compelling enough reasons, what are? As long as our city council members are willing to perpetuate low voter turnout, students have every reason to be worried.

Katsounas is a business and government sophomore.



## LEGALESE

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# SG online scavenger hunt promotes updated website

By Allie Kolechta  
Daily Texan Staff

Student Government has created an online scavenger hunt of questions and answers about their website for “Win Week,” a social media blitz in celebration of SG’s revamped website, according to SG officials.

Each day this week, SG will post a question about the new website on their Facebook page and post hints to the answer on their Twitter account, said SG spokesperson Sydney Fazende. Students who answer the questions will have chances to win prizes each day, leading up to the chance to win a pair of Co-op Longhorn boots on Friday, Fazende said. The questions will encourage students to explore *UTSG.org* for the answers and find some of the new components of the website, Fazende said.

The revamped *UTSG.org* will allow SG members to update the website faster than ever before and give students access to resources where they can reserve rooms in the Student Activities Center, register student organizations, apply for funding and other things they weren’t able to do on the old website, Fazende said.

“It’s unprecedented,” Fazende said. “It’s another way for SG to

be a little more transparent. I want to make SG accessible in the most and best ways possible.”

As the days progress, the window of time for submitting answers will get smaller, Fazende said. Funds from Co-op boots go towards the Rebecca Carreon Scholarship, which is based on merit and need, she said.

The new website, which will include a calendar with dates for SG and other student organizations that SG provides funding for, will be a good way for students to keep track of what’s going on around campus, SG president Natalie Butler said.

“We’re really excited,” she said. “It’s a useful way for students to get what they need and find out what’s going on around campus and in Student Government.”

The question and answer system is a fun way to get the word out about the revamped *UTSG.org*, journalism freshman Stephanie Jones said. As long as students take the time to actually look through the website instead of answering questions quickly just to win a prize, “Win Week” will be a good way to educate students about the website, Jones said.

“The prizes are a good way to get people to answer questions,” she said. “I think it’s a good idea if it’s publicized well enough.”



Victoria Montalvo | Daily Texan Staff

The Austin Pregnancy Resource Center on Rio Grande street is one of the pregnancy clinics filing suit against the city of Austin because the centers are required to post signs stating that they do not provide abortions or birth control.

# Clinics challenge law on services offered signs

By Nick Hadjigeorge  
Daily Texan Staff

The city of Austin is facing legal challenges over the constitutionality of an ordinance requiring pregnancy resource centers to publicly announce they do not perform abortions, refer individuals to abortion related resources or provide contraception.

The Texas Center for Defense of Life, Law of Life Project, Alliance Defense Fund and Liberty Institute are representing Austin area pro-life pregnancy resource centers who say the city is violating their First Amendment rights as well as attacking their moral position on abortion.

The clinics filing suit are defined by the city code as limited service pregnancy centers and are required to post a notice in both English and Spanish stating, “This center does not provide

abortions or refer to abortion providers. This center does not provide or refer to providers of U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved birth control drugs and medical devices.”

Failure to comply with the ordinance is a class C misdemeanor which is the same category as public intoxication and disorderly conduct. Not publishing the information is punishable by a \$250 first-time offense.

Stephen Casey, vice president and chief counsel of the Texas Center for Defense of Life, said the city ordinance is clearly violating the Constitution because it is regulating the moral opinions of Austin residents for political reasons.

“The government can’t force people to choose sides between two viewpoints in a political issue,” Casey said. “They passed this ordinance because public opinion on abortion is at an all

time low, and they are unfairly trying to compete with pro-life centers.”

Casey said he thinks the lawsuit will be successful because similar ordinances have already been struck down by federal courts as unconstitutional in Maryland and New York.

The lawsuit was officially filed on Thursday and could potentially take up to a year to be decided on, Casey said.

Alexandra Messenger, member of the Feminist Action Project Conference and women’s and gender studies and studio art senior, said the city ordinance is needed to accurately inform women of all the possible resources available to them.

Messenger said pro-life clinics base the information they give to clients on their moral, religious or political agenda, which rules out mentioning abortion or contraceptives.

“For a lot women, these clinics are all that’s available,” Messenger said. “The women hope to get accurate information, but some of these places don’t give it to them.”

Executive director of Austin LifeCare Pam Cobern said in the Oct. 6 press release that the ordinance is unjustifiably punishing businesses that only want to serve the community according to their moral viewpoints.

“We as Texans and American citizens should be allowed to serve the less fortunate in a manner consistent without beliefs, without fear of punishment from a city government that has a political disagreement with our message,” Cobern said.

Photojournalism senior Caryn Werner said she thinks the city should not interfere with the speech rights of private businesses.



Photo courtesy of SG

# TOURNAMENT

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# Longhorns regroup after first loss



Lawrence Peart | Daily Texan Staff  
Carrington Byndom and the rest of Texas’ defensive backs will take on one of the nation’s best quarterbacks, Oklahoma State’s Brandon Weeden, a week after Oklahoma’s Landry Jones picked the Longhorns secondary apart at the Cotton Bowl Saturday. The Cowboys scored a season-high 70 points against Kansas this past weekend.

## Oklahoma State’s Weeden, Blackmon to test secondary yet again

By Christian Corona  
Daily Texan Staff

It was disheartening enough to get pounded by nearly 40 points, especially at the hands of a hat-

ed rival. But to see that your next opponent is up 56-7 at halftime? “That’s a morale booster,” head coach Mack Brown joked. “I didn’t even show the players. Let’s wait until tomor-

row and let them see how much they’re scoring.” While Oklahoma crushed Texas, 55-17, Saturday, Oklahoma State was busy pounding Kansas, 70-28. The Jayhawks scored

the game’s first touchdown before the Cowboys scored 56 unanswered points before halftime. The Longhorns had trouble containing a Sooners passing attack that saw Landry Jones throw for

367 yards and three touchdowns and will have their hands full with an Oklahoma State offense that scores a nation’s best 51.4

OSU continues on PAGE 8

### COLUMN

## Cowboys bring lethal passing attack to Austin this weekend



By Trey Scott  
Daily Texan Columnist

It wasn’t the intent, but Mack Brown’s opening statement with the print media for his Monday press conference sounded more like a death sentence you’d hear before an execution than an actual list of statistics. “Oklahoma State is No. 1 in scoring offense with 51 points per game, No. 2 in total offense with 577 yards per game, No. 2 in pass offense with 431 yards per game. They had 409 against us last year [in Texas’ 33-16 loss in Austin]. They’re No. 10 in pass efficiency, No. 5 in third-down efficiency. They’re successful on 56 percent of their third downs. They’re 13th in the country in the red zone — 26 touchdowns and eight field goals.” In fewer words, hold on tight.



Mary Kang | Daily Texan file photo

Justin Blackmon torched Texas for 145 yards and a touchdown in Oklahoma State’s 33-17 win last season.

The Cowboys will invade Austin this weekend with a quarterback older than last year’s Super Bowl MVP and a receiver who’s better than anybody else in the country. All that means is that, for the second straight week, this will be a

game won or lost in the Texas secondary. No, the Longhorns cannot afford to turn the ball over again five times again and yes, some pass protection would be nice. But this

DEFENSE continues on PAGE 8

### STAT GUY

## Shipley, Davis carry nearly two-thirds of Texas receiving load

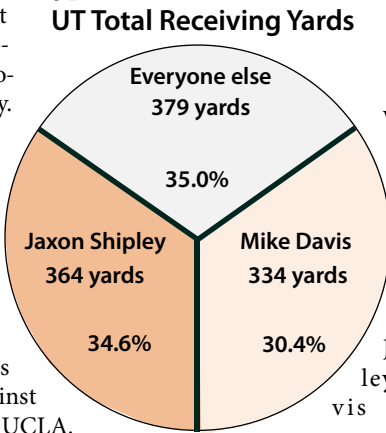


By Hank South  
Daily Texan Columnist

Never have growing pains been more evident than in Texas’ 55-17 loss to Oklahoma on Saturday. Throughout the entire afternoon, neither the defense nor offense looked in sync like they had in the previous two games against Iowa State and UCLA. The Texas offense was on and then off the field with three-

and-outs as quickly as Oklahoma quarterback Landry Jones was slinging touchdowns to his receivers.

As effective as the Sooner receivers were in the game, the Longhorn receivers as a whole were almost the polar opposite. Three actual receivers caught a pass against the Sooners: Jaxon Shipley, Mike Davis and Blaine



RECEIVERS continues on PAGE 8

### MEN’S GOLF

## Speith eight birdie-round puts Horns within one of tourney lead

By Peter Sblendorio  
Daily Texan Staff

Coming off of its first win of the 2011 campaign last week at the Jerry Pate Intercollegiate, the men’s golf team is poised to make another finish atop the leaderboards this week in its third tournament of the season. The Longhorns, ranked No. 3 in the latest GolfWeek/Nike poll, began a two-day, 54-hole tournament at the Jack Nicklaus Invitational in Dublin, Ohio with a strong performance, finishing the day in second place of

the 12-team field with a score of 575 (-2) and just one shot behind leader Ohio State (574, -1). Four of the five golfers that Texas sent to the tournament were on last week’s squad that took first place in Birmingham, Ala., with senior Adam Wennerstrom, who shot a 159 (+15) for the day, being the only new addition. Senior Dylan Frittelli, who has finished in second place in each of his first two tournaments in 2011 and was named the Big 12 Golfer of the Month for September, provided his slowest start to an event so far, shooting a 146 (+2) in the opening

round. In addition to the seniors, junior Julio Vegas, sophomore Toni Hakula and freshman Jordan Spieth also made the lineup for the Longhorns for this tournament. Hakula shot a 148 (+4) through day one, and Vegas tied for sixth among individual golfers by recording a score of 142 (-2). Spieth has been major reason for the Longhorn’s ascent to the top of the leaderboard at the Jack Nicklaus Invitational, though, as he recorded the second best score over day one by shooting a 139 (-5). This included a second round

in which he shot a 66, good for 6-under-par, and converted four consecutive birdies. Overall, the Longhorns recorded the best score of anyone in the second round of Day 1’s action, shooting a 12-under-par score of 276 that helped them move into second place entering the final day. Texas will tee off with the first group on Tuesday morning at 8:20, and they will look to add on their strong second round performance on Day 1 and compete for their second consecutive tournament victory.



Jordan Spieth  
Freshman

SIDELINE

MLB

TIGERS

3

RANGERS

7

CARDINALS

12

BREWERS

3

NFL

BEARS

13

LIONS

24

NHL

COYOTES

1

STARS

2

SPOTLIGHT

Khat Bell, #1

Position:  
Middle Blocker/  
Outside Hitter  
Height: 6’1”  
Class:  
Freshman  
Sport:  
Volleyball

After an impressive showing against Texas A&M Wednesday, Khat Bell was named the Big 12 Rookie of the Week. Texas beat the Aggies in straight sets last week as Bell notched 12 kills and a whopping .611 hitting percentage in her Longhorns debut at middle blocker. Bell kept the Big 12 Rookie of the Week honor in Texas for the second straight time. Last Monday, Haley Eckerman earned the same accolade after a 20-kill effort against Oklahoma Sept. 28 and a 21-kill performance against Iowa State Oct. 2. Bell also earned Big 12 Rookie of the Week honors Sept. 19 after racking up 34 kills and hitting .359 in three matches against Santa Clara, Southern Methodist and UT-San Antonio. — Christian Corona

SPORTS BRIEFLY

Cruz’s extra-inning grand slam gives Rangers 2-0 ALCS lead

ARLINGTON — Nelson Cruz hit the first game-ending grand slam in postseason history, lifting the Texas Rangers over the Detroit Tigers 7-3 in 11 innings Monday for a 2-0 lead in the AL championship series. Cruz doubled early, then hit a tying home run in the seventh inning. His second homer of the game was a high drive to left field off Ryan Perry with nobody out in the 11th, and came after a misplay in the Detroit outfield loaded the bases. “It was amazing,” Cruz said. “First two pitches, I was too aggressive. I hit the ball — foul ball, foul ball. So after that, I told myself just slow down and try to hit a fly ball to the outfield.” Cruz, hit on the wrist by a pitch in the ninth, connected for the fourth grand slam in the playoffs this year. Ryan Roberts and Paul Goldschmidt of Arizona and Robinson Cano of the Yankees also hit them. Game 3 is Tuesday night in Detroit. Colby Lewis, 4-0 in five career postseason starts, pitches for the defending AL champion Rangers against Doug Fister. — The Associated Press



# OSU continues from PAGE 7

points per game.

"We ran into a buzzsaw," Brown said. "If we'd have gotten beat 7-6 or 45-44, we'd have felt better but we'd still be 4-1. At the end of the day, a loss is a loss."

Jones, along with wideouts Ryan Broyles and Kenny Stills, had their way with a Texas secondary that entered the Red River Rivalry as the Big 12's best pass defense. Now, quarterback Brandon Weeden, who's completing over 75 percent of his throws, and wide receiver Justin Blackmon, last year's Biletnikoff Award winner, are set to come to Austin this weekend. Oklahoma State could very well present the Longhorns defensive backs with an even tougher challenge than the one it faced at the Cotton Bowl this past Saturday.

"If you would have asked me Friday night before the game if this was going to happen, I would've said 'no' because we prepared and we prepared so well," said senior linebacker Keenan Robinson. "[Oklahoma State] is probably just as good as or better than OU on offense. We're going to focus on hammering the pass, hammering the quarterback and

making him unsure of his reads. We didn't do that well Saturday."

Texas' quarterbacks, on the other hand, are coming off their worst individual performances of the season. Case McCoy and David Ash each committed their first two turnovers of the year and got sacked a combined seven times. With another top 10 team on the horizon, the thought of relying on one field general to take all of the snaps rather than the current two-quarterback system has been floated around. For now, there is still an "or" between McCoy's and Ash's names on the depth chart.

"We're always looking each week for the best 11 guys to put out there," said co-offensive coordinator Bryan Harsin. "We're trying to get guys to separate throughout practice. The quarterback position is no different."

Despite the lopsided defeat, there is some reason for hope. Under Brown, Texas has never lost a game immediately following the Red River Rivalry. The Longhorns are 6-8 against Oklahoma since Brown, who was OU's offensive coordinator in 1984, took over as head coach in 1998 but are a perfect 14-0

in contests right after they face the Sooners.

"I realized, after coaching at OU, how hard it is to coach the week before OU and the week after," Brown said. "We made a really conscious effort to not talk about it the week before and to put it to bed really quickly, win or lose, immediately afterwards because it's such an emotional game and it means so much to everybody."

Excluding the Cowboys' 37-14 win over Arizona in its second contest, they haven't allowed less than 28 points in a game this year. Oklahoma State's defense is mediocre at best as it's in the bottom half of the country in scoring and rushing defense and 103rd in pass defense. After taking on an athletic and experienced Oklahoma defense, Texas' offense should be much more productive this week.

Then again, a lockdown defense isn't a luxury a team that's capable of putting up 70 points necessarily needs. But if the Longhorns give up anything close to the 55 they gave up to Oklahoma, they won't have much of a chance to beat Oklahoma State.

# TCU continues from PAGE 1

boast a 4-2 record this season and have yet to lose a conference game.

The Longhorns are 4-1 after losing their first conference game against Oklahoma last weekend. They last played TCU in 2007, when they beat the Horned Frogs, 34-13.

"We're proud that TCU has been invited to join the Big 12," said UT men's athletics director DeLoss Dodds. "Their commitment to academics and success on the field make them an excellent fit. With a solid budget and strong financial support, they have been proactive at improving facilities."

The strong financial support Dodds referred to is evident in TCU's \$164 million renovation of the university's football stadium, set for completion by fall

2012. Dodds also said TCU's central location to UT and other Big 12 schools will facilitate travel for both teams.

"It's great for our fans," Brown said. "They can easily drive to Fort Worth. We think that parents will be able to see another away game. That's not the case when you're traveling across the country to play. The high school coaches are going to get to see them play and the players will get home at a decent hour."

Education sophomore Victoria Elliott said she has many friends who attend TCU, and she feels the move will benefit their college experience. Elliott said she believes playing more popular schools like UT will grant more exposure to TCU and help the university's recruiting efforts.

TCU Chancellor Victor Boschini, Jr. stated similar beliefs in a press release issued following the announcement.

"Joining the Big 12 connects us not only to schools with whom we share a rich tradition in sports, but also to schools committed to academic ex-

“  
Joining the Big 12 connects us not only to schools with whom we share a rich tradition in sports, but also to schools committed to academic excellence.  
— Victor Boschini Jr, TCU chancellor

cellence,” Boschini said in the press release.

Other UT students, such as human biology sophomore Michael Zurcher, think the addition of TCU to the Big 12 could even restore old traditions associated with the former Southwest Conference.

"We used to play against them in pretty good competition," Zurcher said.

Zurcher said he feels officials may have totally saved the Big 12 by bringing in a team with as strong of a history as TCU.



# RECEIVERS continues from PAGE 7

Irby. The trio combined for 17 catches, 171 yards and one touchdown.

Looking back throughout this season, Davis and Shipley have certainly established themselves as the go-to receivers for a pair of young quarterbacks. In fact, Shipley has already caught 25 passes for 369 yards and three scores, while Davis has hauled in 15 balls for 334 yards and one score. The duo has tallied 703 of the Longhorns' 1,082 yards. For anyone without a calculator on hand, that's 65 percent of the Longhorns' air game. To the statistical eye, one wouldn't believe that this is an offense that likes to spread the ball around to different playmakers.

A couple of weeks ago at UCLA,

D.J. Grant emerged as possibly the next great tight end, racking up six catches for 77 yards and three scores. It must have been California 'Dreamin' because since then Grant has caught one ball for 19 yards. When Marquis Goodwin declared his return his return to football the week prior to the BYU game, much hype was given to his world-class speed mixed into the versatile Texas offense. Since then, Goodwin has caught three balls for 15 yards. The list can go on about lackluster receiving performance.

While some of the blame can be placed upon errant throws, it is still the receivers' job to help the quarterbacks out. There is far too much talent on the Texas sideline for only

two receivers to be making a major impact. It is time for receivers like Grant, Goodwin, Darius White and DeSean Hales to put up some numbers. John Harris being out indefinitely with a foot injury doesn't help, either.

To co-offensive coordinator Bryan Harsin's credit, a multitude of skill players are seeing touches, however the majority of the time those touches aren't producing significant yards. Until major fluidity is created between the quarterbacks and receiving corps, look for Davis and Shipley to continue to carry the Texas offense on their backs. But it'd be nice if they could get some help.

# DEFENSE continues from PAGE 7

is the defense's turn to prove it is in fact the strength of the team.

"It's important to get back to what we've been doing," said senior linebacker Keenan Robinson. "As a defense, we want the turnovers to come and have to play better on third down. [Against OU] we did things on defense to win the game and help the offense, but a few plays prevented us from playing at the level they want to."

The Longhorns abide by a 24-hour rule, meaning that, after Sunday, they were no longer thinking about the 55-17 loss to Oklahoma. And here's some good news: The players seemed upbeat and confident.

"Last week was a fluke," Robinson said. "Things happened so quickly and snowballed."

Heck, maybe even too confident. But there's nothing wrong with that this weekend. Texas is go-

ing to have to believe it actually has a chance in this game. That begins with members of the torn-apart secondary having a short-memory — cliché as it sounds.

"You have to have that," said senior safety Blake Gideon. "You can't let one game or individual play affect the next."

That'll be big. The age and experience gap between OSU's quarterback Brandon Weeden — a 27-year-old former minor league pitcher for the New York Yankees' organization — and the Longhorns' green secondary is wide. Mistakes will be made. Coverages will be busted. Touchdowns will be scored.

"They're incredibly prolific on offense," said senior linebacker Emmanuel Acho. "They do a great job schematically and in execution, they have great talent and they're going to be hard to stop. We

have to get in the film room and be mentally prepared."

Weeden, who has thrown 15 touchdowns this year and is completing 76 percent of his passes, even has three months on the Green Bay Packers' Aaron Rodgers.

"That's pretty good," Brown said with a laugh.

And his favorite target, wideout Justin Blackmon, puts up 100 more consistently than my dear mother does at Nordstrom: The Biletnikoff Award winner has failed to record 100 or more receiving yards in only three of his last 17 games.

"Blackmon plays hard, blocks hard and will be a real challenge," Gideon said. "He's one of the best players in the country so you have to respect him."

So there's your first look at the No. 6 Cowboys. Sorry if it was a painful one.

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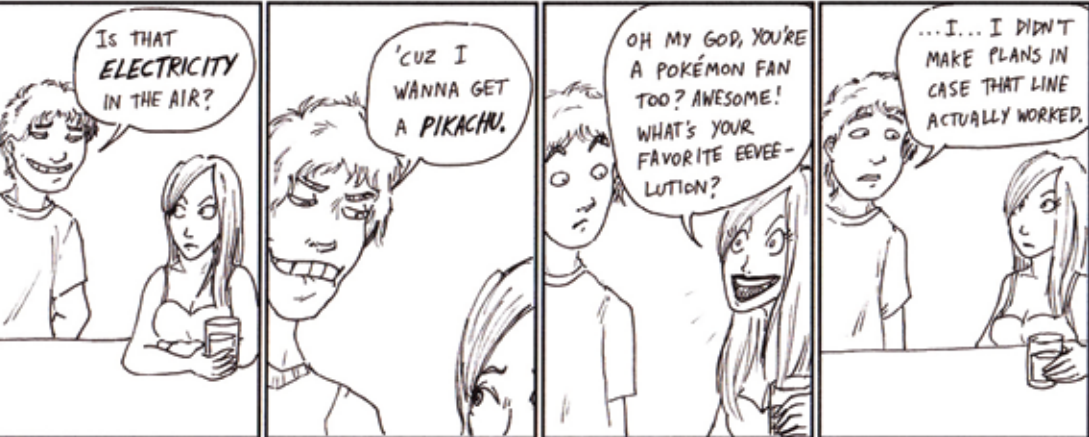
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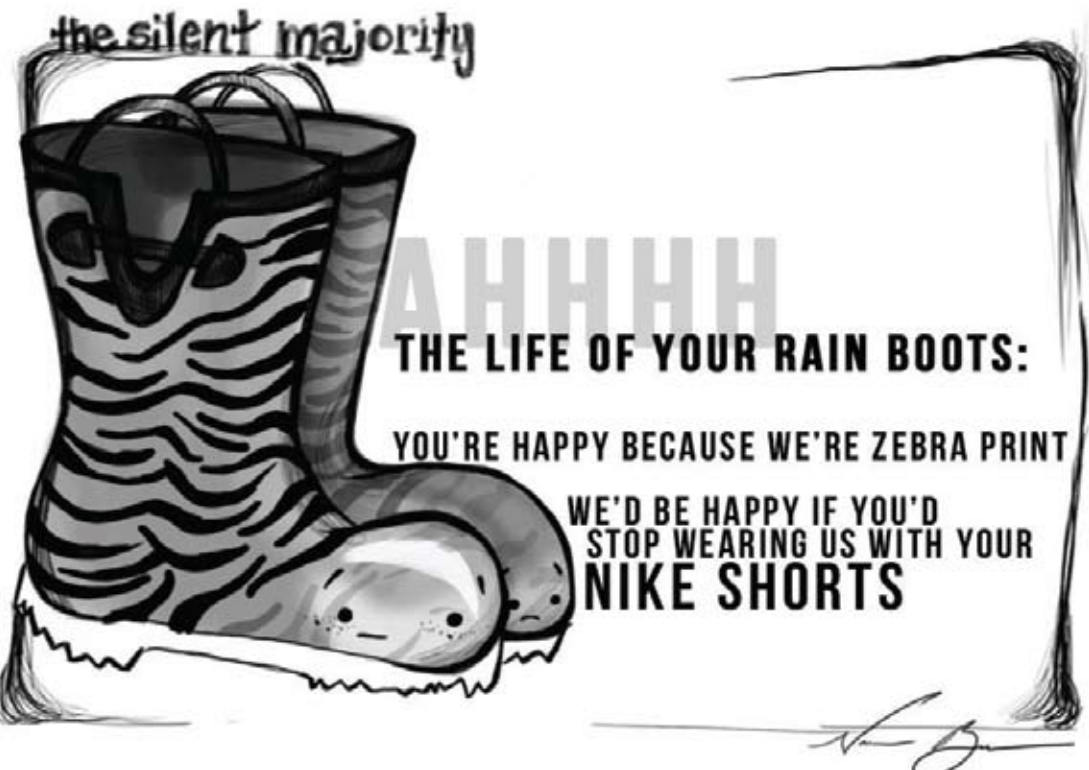
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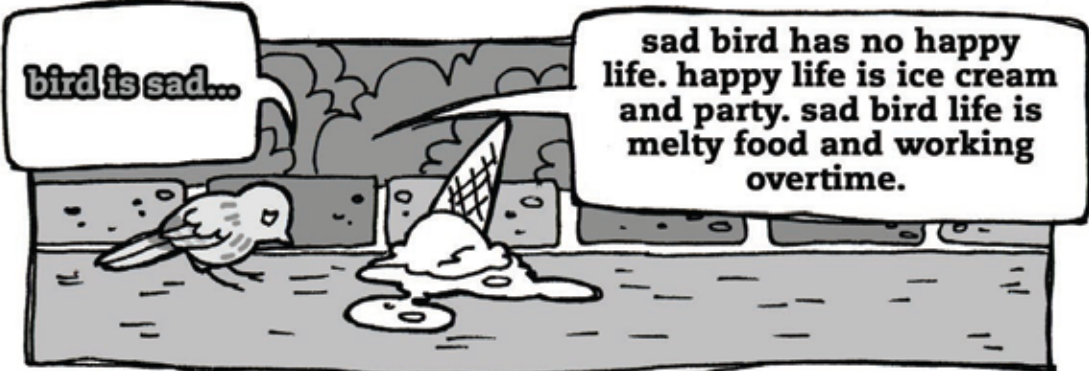
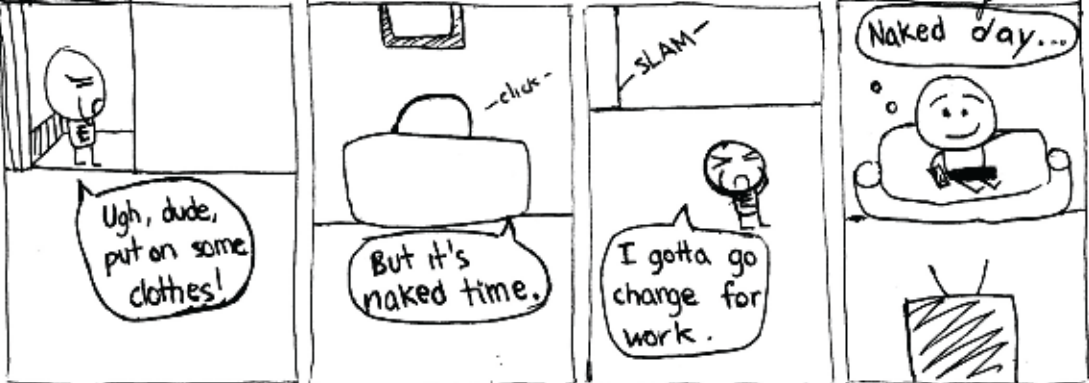
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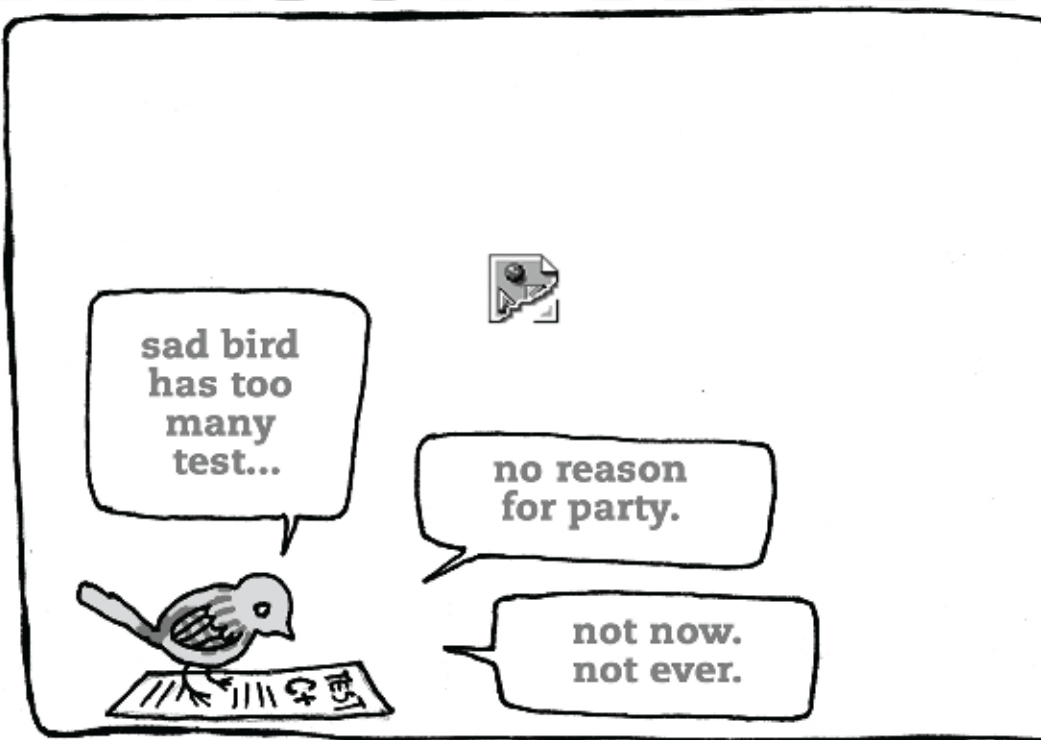


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Word From a Bird: An Idiot Learns School Tradition



By Aron Fernandez

SUDOKUFORYOU

9		2						
		2				1	3	6
6		1		3	4		9	
		9	5			2		
2				8				1
		8			7	6		
	4		9	1		5		8
1	8	6				9		
					8		1	

Yesterday's solution

9	6	7	3	8	4	2	5	1
2	5	8	7	1	6	9	3	4
1	4	3	9	2	5	7	8	6
4	8	9	1	3	7	5	6	2
7	3	6	5	4	2	1	9	8
5	2	1	8	6	9	3	4	7
3	7	4	6	5	1	8	2	9
8	9	2	4	7	3	6	1	5
6	1	5	2	9	8	4	7	3

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Edited by Will Shortz No. 0906

- Across
- 1 It gets patted on the bottom
  - 5 Tableland
  - 9 Lead-in to boy or girl
  - 13 Surveyor's calculation
  - 14 Raring to go
  - 15 Gershwin and Glass
  - 16 Ticket usable on more than one trip
  - 18 Basketball hoops
  - 19 Gerund's finish
  - 20 When repeated, cry to a vampire
  - 21 Accomplish
  - 22 They make a king laugh
  - 26 Available if needed
  - 28 One who's supposed to be available if needed
  - 29 End-of-list abbr.
  - 31 Diamond cover
  - 32 Life, in short
  - 33 Neck cover
  - 35 Smells bad
  - 38 Mel who batted left and threw right
  - 39 Become oblivious to one's surroundings
  - 41 Completely untrained
  - 42 Home of Arizona State University
  - 44 Stir up, as a fire
  - 45 Suffix with brigand
  - 46 "\_\_\_ well"
  - 48 Alternative to .com or .org
  - 49 Bean type
  - 50 Like maps, iguanas and rock walls
  - 52 Bad-mouth
  - 54 Counterparts of dits
  - 55 Cut with a sweeping motion
  - 57 Greek H
  - 58 Theater sign
  - 59 Fast marching pace ... or a hint to 16- and 39-Across and 10- and 24-Down
  - 64 Dairy Queen purchase
  - 65 Shortstop Smith who won 13 consecutive Gold Glove Awards
  - 66 Cajole
  - 67 Lollapalooza
  - 68 "Butt out," briefly
  - 69 Novelist Victor
- Down
- 1 Bit of body art, for short
  - 2 Train schedule abbr.
  - 3 Meadow
  - 4 Dentist's target
  - 5 Apple on a table
  - 6 "My word!"
  - 7 Prefix with comic
  - 8 Raring to go
  - 9 Expedite calculation
  - 10 Interval in which something is tested
  - 11 Indian tongue
  - 12 Helper: Abbr.
  - 14 Artist born in 30-Down
  - 17 WSW's opposite
  - 22 Frilly neckwear
  - 23 Type of type



- Puzzle by Susan Gelfand
- 24 Las Vegas staple
  - 25 Nixon aide
  - 27 \_\_\_ blanche
  - 30 Minotaur's home
  - 33 Former Cleveland Orchestra conductor
  - 34 General \_\_\_ former maker of Jell-O and Sanka
  - 36 Rapper West
  - 40 Luau instrument
  - 43 Wall cover
  - 47 Rarely
  - 49 Grab
  - 50 Anglo-\_\_\_
  - 51 Lollapalooza
  - 53 Noshed
  - 54 Art \_\_\_
  - 56 "The Godfather" author
  - 60 Drool catcher
  - 61 Debtor's letters
  - 62 O or Cosmo
  - 63 Prefix with skeleton

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FANTASY FOOTBALL



Tim Tebow almost led the Denver Broncos to a dramatic comeback victory over the San Diego Chargers Sunday, sparking a quarterback controversy. If he wins the job, he could be worth picking up.

John Mahoney  
Associated Press

Cruz becoming reliable fantasy option

By Chris Hummer  
Daily Texan Staff

Week 5 of the fantasy season is in the books. Here are a few fantasy players who had scorching performances, plus a few who made owners shake their heads in disgust.

HOT

Victor Cruz,  
New York Giants

1. One great game can be an anomaly and two can still be a fluke. But when you get to three, it becomes a trend. Cruz has now ascended into trend territory after an eight-catch 161-yard day against the Seahawks. This is the third straight game where he has 98 yards or more, and he is quickly becoming Eli Manning's second favorite receiver behind Hakeem Nicks.

Tim Tebow,  
Denver Broncos

2. The NFL's most talked about backup finally saw the field after starter Kyle Orton struggled in the first half, and he performed

well. Tebow passed for 79 yards and made a real impact running the ball, finishing the day with 16 points in ESPN leagues. Denver is heading into its bye week and with a full-blown quarterback controversy, but look for the former Heisman winner to come out on top.

A.J. Green,  
Cincinnati Bengals

3. The rookie has quietly been one of the most consistent options at wide receiver this year, putting up 10 or more points in each of his first four games. Expect Green to keep it up next week with the Bengals taking on a weak Colts secondary.

NOT

Thomas Jones,  
Kansas City Chiefs

1. He just hasn't gotten the job done filling in for Jamaal Charles. Jones is only averaging three points a game since becoming the starter and — even worse — he hasn't averaged more than 3.3 yards a carry in any of

those games. Jones should ride your bench for a while and, if he doesn't turn it around quickly, should be dropped for a steadier option.

Mario Manningham,  
New York Giants

2. As Cruz has gone up in the Giants pecking order, Manningham has fallen. He has not had more than five fantasy points yet, and since coming back from injury two weeks ago, has only been targeted six times. Watch carefully next week to see his targets, and if they're lower than Cruz's, it might be time to hit the waiver wire.

Kevin Kolb,  
Arizona Cardinals

3. Four points from your quarterback: ouch. That was the number Kolb put up this week, following a five point-performance the week before. With little talent outside other than Larry Fitzgerald, Kolb is struggling. Therefore, he should never see the light of your starting lineup.

BEEBE continues from PAGE 1

whether to vote for the deal, rather than like in the Big Ten or Pac-12 where the rights were all granted to the conference," he said. "In all the other conferences frankly, the commissioners have the rights to sell, and there isn't this negotiation between the schools and the conference to see what they are going to take to the marketplace."

The conference recently agreed to a right-sharing deal similar to the one Beebe proposed two years ago that will allow it to share tier-one and tier-two television revenue equally. This means that a school turns over the television rights to its best football and basketball games to the conference. If, for instance, Missouri, wanted to leave for the SEC — which continues to be an object speculation — the Big 12 would still make money off of the games it would play against powerhouse teams like Florida, Alabama, LSU or any other team in the conference. The Big 12's new deal is a six-year commitment.

Nebraska and Colorado left the conference in 2010, followed by Texas A&M this summer. While Nebraska said they left on the grounds of receiving a higher television payday from the Big Ten, the Aggies left because of Texas' business deal with ESPN.

"Texas A&M didn't leave because of money, because we were able to demonstrate that they were in line for as much, if not more money in the Big 12," Beebe said. "[Texas A&M] cited issues with the Longhorn Network. I wish that we would have had a chance to address specifically what they wouldn't wanted to had happened with that before they went and had meetings with the Southeastern Conference. The issues they were raising were things we would have dealt with most part."

One of those issues was the Longhorn Network's intentions to air high school football games, which Texas A&M representa-

tives believed would have given the Longhorns an unfair recruiting advantage. The NCAA recently banned the Longhorn Network from showing high school games, as per its policy, and Beebe said he would have addressed that issue regardless. Beebe received heat from the media and a few university leaders around the conference for a perceived bias towards Texas, which he denies.

"All I ever did was what I thought was best for the overall conference," Beebe said. "A number of things that I raised and abdicated for would have helped Texas, sure, but a number of things I pushed for weren't great for Texas. At the end of the day, the commissioner doesn't ever try to help one school over the other. I did what was best for the whole."

And now, just as the Big 12 is preparing to add TCU to its ranks, the man who oversaw the conference during times of its greatest confusion must be happy to see the intercollegiate athletic conference move forward with some sense of stability and purpose. After all, he did try to keep up with expansion trend and add to the Big 12, but his plans were derailed this summer once Oklahoma began considering a conference move.

"We formed an expansion committee during this last summer's talks of more realignment, but we put it on hold when Oklahoma said 'well we want to explore our options as well,'" he said. "When that happened we weren't really going to be able to attract other institutions, because the question then became 'well who is going to even be [in the Big 12]?"

Beebe made it clear that he has no ill-will towards the Big 12 and that he only wants to see it continue to foster better inter-conference relationships between its teams. He emphasized a clear respect for the conference and hopes that schools will put the

“  
At the end of the day,  
the commissioner  
doesn't ever try to  
help one school over  
the other.

— Dan Beebe, former Big 12 commissioner

”

considerations of the student-athlete first when considering conference choices.

"The [Big 12] conference is bigger than Dan Beebe. It is something that is of extreme value to this region and this part of the country and I think the best thing for this area is if the conference holds together," he said. "I have a tremendous amount of care about the conference and its continuation and I was honored to serve. I understand that they needed another voice or whatever, and it's sad and unfortunate for me personally, but if it is what can help hold the conference together, then that's great."

With the addition of TCU and the new grant-of-right deal, it seems as though the Big 12 waters have calmed for now. Nationally though, there are schools still looking to make moves in and out of conferences such as the Big East and Conference-USA. But Beebe cautions against the very tangible possibility of schools exploring realignment options.

"My whole view of the intercollegiate world is that we need to have institutions that compete based on their orientations," he said. "Where do they get their students and where do their alumni go to work and live? When you disconnect from that, then I think you're facing some real challenges for the future."

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BOOK REVIEW: THE MARRIAGE PLOT

Eugenides challenges prior marriage plot

By Katie Stroh  
Daily Texan Staff

The “marriage plot” refers to a storytelling device commonly used by 19th century novelists such as Jane Austen and Henry James, in which the female protagonist can only cement her destiny by finding and marrying the man that will secure her happiness and financial future. Because 19th century women were extremely limited financially, politically and socially, their futures rode entirely on their ability to marry a suitable man. Although the marriage plot was central to 19th century life, it seems all but obsolete today.

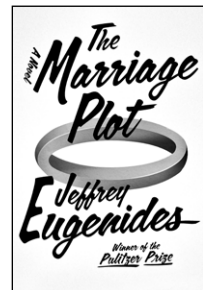
However, Jeffrey Eugenides takes the idea and places it into a modern context in his latest novel “The Marriage Plot,” keenly examining how relevant the labyrinth of romantic difficulties and successes is in a contemporary society in which women’s societal positions are nearly equal to men’s, rather than blatantly subordinate.

Despite having only previously published two novels in his nearly 20 year-long career as an author, Eugenides has made a significant impact on the literary world. His first book, “The Virgin Suicides,” got significant mainstream attention even before Sophia Coppola’s film adaptation. In 2002, “Middlesex” won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction and is considered by some scholars to be a Great American Novel in the tradition of John Steinbeck and William Faulkner. Eugenides returns nearly a decade later to release “The Marriage Plot.”

“The Marriage Plot” centers on three friends in the early 1980s — Madeline, Leonard and Mitchell — and follows them through their final year at Brown University and into their first tumultuous steps into the post-graduate world. Beautiful, over-achieving and slightly spoiled Madeline is at the center of an uneasy love triangle: She’s in love with the intelligent but deeply troubled manic-depressive Leonard, but spurns her friend Mitchell’s advances because she’s turned off by “the kind of smart, sane, parent-pleasing boy” she knows she should marry.

Madeline, an English major swept up in the romance of the Victorian novel even though her peers eschew such sentimentality, finds herself caught up in her own marriage plot. She finds it increasingly difficult to deal with Leonard’s deteriorating emotional state, leaving him an undesirable romantic prospect despite her best efforts to aid his rehabilitation. Mitchell, on the other hand, sets off on a journey of self-discovery in India, but finds himself unable to shake his thoughts of Madeline.

Although not quite reaching the heights of importance of his culturally explosive “Middlesex,” Eugenides continues to write with a deft confidence and deals with his subjects in an incisive and often poignant way. His privileged and self-involved characters can occasionally be infuriating, but Eugenides realizes their faults and always manages to ground them with emotional resonance and relatability. Ultimately, Eugenides seems to come to the conclusion that the marriage plot, rather than being an outmoded and tired vehicle for storytelling, is all the more complicated and fascinating in 1980 than it was in 1880.



**The Marriage Plot**  
Jeffrey Eugenides

**Genre:** Drama  
**For those who like:** Jonathan Franzen

**Grade:** B+

BOOK continues from PAGE 12

“The Better Angels of Our Nature: Why Violence Has Declined,” we are living in the most peaceful time in the history of humanity. Even with the combined bloodshed of the two world wars, the atomic bomb, school shootings, gang wars, drug trade and serial killers, the 20th century wasn’t nearly as violent as the Dark Ages or, and this is a real shocker, the Renaissance. In any reasonable definition of violence — and Pinker goes through many of them — the world is in a state of relative peace.

Inspired by a few brief paragraphs that Pinker wrote in 2007 for *edge.org*, which were then expanded into a TED talk, the book is roughly broken into two parts. The first catalogues the types of violence in previous eras as well as some of the large scale trends that caused its gradual reduction, while the second, more tenuous part offers psychological explanations for how human nature has undergone a very real change

over the past 10,000 years.

Pinker argues a minority viewpoint, but it’s a view that many experts agree with. Additionally, he’s very persuasive in the book and builds up a very strong case, anticipating the reader’s arguments and addressing them almost before the reader can come up with them. He supports his points with non-stop graphs, but takes the time to explain where the data came from and, when estimates are necessary, is sure to indicate whether they’re low-end or high-end and why.

As a result, this is a very long book — just under 700 pages of text with an additional 150 pages of endnotes, references and index — but it’s also a very readable and entertaining one. For such a hefty work, it’s tough to put down. Pinker offers a very professional tone, as he did in his other books including the wonderful “How the Mind Works” and “The Language Instinct,” but he also

inserts a dry and sometimes laugh out loud sense of humor. He takes his time, explaining some of the more complex ideas in such a way that all but the most impatient readers should be able to follow. Like a good professor, he inspires interest not just by his enthusiasm for the topic, but in his ability to make it interesting. But he also forces his students to think and the ideas will dance around in your mind long after you turn the final page.

Pinker deals with strongly political topics in this book, but isn’t afraid of siding with an uncomfortable viewpoint if the evidence seems to support it. He argues strongly against the “blank slate” opinion of humanity, in which we’re molded only by our environment, as well as the “noble savage” stereotype, in which Native Americans were living peacefully on the American continent until Western Europeans came and corrupted them. And, in

the end, while he comes across as a left-leaning voter, he’s not afraid to support strongly conservative viewpoints, including the idea that disarmament is not an effective means of reducing violence and that the open market is one of the main reasons that violence has gone down. It’s refreshing to read something by someone who has strong opinions for good reasons that don’t necessarily gel with a specific ideology.

“The Better Angels of Our Nature” is bound to go down as a classic that begs to be read carefully. Though sometimes appearing idealist, Pinker very rarely states what the next few years may bring. Instead, he repeatedly makes the point that, though this is what history has shown, there are no guarantees that it will continue. The moral of the story is not to sit back and relax, thanking our lucky stars for the world we live in, but to push forward and continue the trend.

ALBUM continues from PAGE 12

that has contributed to Zola Jesus’ inspirations. There is an impending sensibility produced by a menacing synth, mechanical-sounding samples and a pounding double-bass drum.

However, the tracks soften, both lyrically and audibly as the album progresses. The sound begins to flow a bit more at ease, with touches of cello, piano, violin and viola, allowing the listener in on Danilova’s anxiety and strife through a unique twist of symphonic melodies.

The seasonal appeal of *Conatus* sets a chilling frost, Danilova’s voice reminiscent of Siouxsie Sioux and resolution comparable to Patti Smith. The album itself seems as though the artist were venting in the middle of a tundra horizon, her song oscillating against icebergs.

The cohesive song titles reveal a wintry aesthetic, and the white-schemed album art resonates with the transient-like nature of Zola Jesus. The album cover is suggestive of the album as a whole: Danilova’s face hiding behind sheer fab-

ric, echoing her forlorn state, yet evoking her willingness to share her pain with the world.

“Hikikomori” allows the listener to writhe along with Danilova, as the vocals convey a sort of helplessness. The artist seems to grapple for air and her song struggles to escape from her vocal passage. The term “hikikomori,” referring to an individual withdrawn from society through self-confinement, is reflective of Danilova’s childhood of secluded opera singing.

“Seekir” is one of the more upbeat tracks on *Conatus*. With a quicker-paced drum beat and synth frequency, a more poppy element is introduced to the album, generating a livelier timbre and higher-pitched vocals. “Collapse” concludes the album, and as the song implies, demonstrates Danilova’s complete vulnerability. It expels any abrasive notions attached to the previous tracks, and wraps up the album in the utter rawness of emotional struggle.

COMIC continues from PAGE 12

and how much they’re aiming to raise. Then they describe the project with a few paragraphs and a short, explanatory video. The brevity makes for “a tough sell,” according to Adam Tinius. The fate of the project lies in the hands of the investors — “backers,” as the site calls them.


Backers find a project they want to support and pledge a certain amount of money. Depending on how much money a user pledges, they’re rewarded with a benefit that corresponds with the amount donated. With “Holli Hoxxx,” the Tinius brothers used incentives like posters, signed copies of the books and T-shirts to entice their 28 backers. The six people who donated at the \$500 level were rewarded with characters that were modeled after each backer’s likeness. Dani Raschel, a Kickstarter user from Laredo, donated about \$35 (a pledge-level that entitles her to a hand-screened “Holli Hoxxx” poster and a printed copy of the

book) to the project when she discovered it on the site.

“I was just messing around on Kickstarter and I typed in ‘comics’ just to see what came up,” Raschel said. “I saw the guys are from Austin and I love Austin. So I was like ‘I’ll just go ahead and support these guys. I haven’t really seen any of the artwork, just what was up on the video. It looked good.”

Adam Tinius said that without Kickstarter, they probably would have completed the book anyway, but they would have had to sink a lot more money into it. With Kickstarter and other online outlets, not only were they able to raise enough money, Tinius said that they also created a buzz around their project and got the fans involved.

“It’s a really cool service,” Adam Tinius said. “It helps people out and spreads the word and gets people to help fund projects that without their help wouldn’t get off the ground.”




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**REVIEW  
OF THE  
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Photo illustration by Fanny Trang, Ryan Edwards and Jorge Corona | Daily Texan Staff

Using websites such as deviantART and Kickstarter, the creators of "Holli Hoxxx" found artists to depict the story as well as donors to fund the project into its next stage, making it easier to take the comic to a higher level.

## Web gave a 'kickstart' to graphic novel

By Aaron West  
Daily Texan Staff

It's 2051 and all the gravity on Earth is gone. Manhattan Island floats in the sky and two companies battle it out for control of the weightless world while a slew of other characters are caught in the crossfire.

In a sci-fi reality like the one described in the graphic novel "Holli Hoxxx," it might be reasonable to expect that cyberspace would be a thing of the past — the VCR of the latter 21st century. But according to Adam and Austin Tinius, the brothers who imagined and wrote the book, the story wouldn't have stood a chance without the Internet.

"The Internet has been everything basically," said Adam Tinius, a UT radio-television-film alumnus. "When we started off, Austin was in Denton, I was in Austin and

the artist [Stefano Cardoselli] was in Italy. It all happened because of talking on the Internet. It's hard to think how this would've been made back in the '70s. It would have been extremely difficult."

The graphic novel began as just an idea: Manhattan untethered from the Earth, an island city floating in the air. Austin Tinius, a 29-year-old screenprinter and University of North Texas alumnus who thought up the idea for the weightless city, told his brother Adam about it, and the two decided to make a comic book together. Then came the hard part — actually making the comic book. That's where the Internet came in.

With the help of services like Kickstarter and deviantART.com, sites that connect projects with investors and artists with other art-

ists, respectively, the Tinius brothers managed to see that initial idea through to near-completion.

They found Stefano Cardoselli, the series' artist who lives in Italy and has illustrated for comics like "Heavy Metal" and "Robodeath," after posting an ad on deviantART. Communicating over the Internet, the team wrote and illustrated the first issue. It was funded by the brothers' own money and released in November 2010.

Now, the team is in the process of completing the second installment in the six-part series. The second issue is set to be released this November. Before they discovered Kickstarter, however, the brothers didn't have enough money to pay for its completion. Austin Tinius introduced his brother to the service and after 60 days of fundraising, they had solved their funding issues.

"Sites like those really open up your options that much more to a whole world of people that want to help tell stories," Adam Tinius said. "I honestly don't know how we could have afforded the second issue without the help of all the these people, it's been awesome."

The brothers are using the \$6,576 they raised to pay Cardoselli for his illustrations, printing and towards paying a cover artist.

Kickstarter, created in 2009, is an online pledge system designed to fund independent projects. The projects are diverse — there's anything from film to music to tech projects among the thousands on the site. Users who start a project decide how long they want the fundraiser to last

COMIC continues on PAGE 11

### BOOK REVIEW: THE BETTER ANGELS OF OUR NATURE

## Pinker's tome posits we live in a time of relative peace

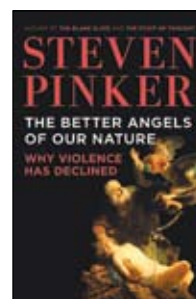
By Robert Starr  
Daily Texan Staff

Other than sex, few things are more interesting to humans than violence. We pay good money to watch gory movies and video games, deplore the acts of violence we see on the news (but still can't stop talking about them) and curse all of those other drivers who stop to look at the

bloody accident, only do the same when we're close enough to see. And, if you talk to almost anybody, they'll say that there's too much violence and bloodshed in the world today and it's getting worse.

True enough, there may be "too much" violence, but according to Steven Pinker in his superbly researched

BOOK continues on PAGE 11



**The Better Angels of Our Nature: Why Violence Has Declined**  
Steven Pinker

**Genre:** Science, History  
**For those who like:** Guns, Germs and Steel, The Rational Optimist, How the Mind Works

Grade: A

### CD REVIEW: CONATUS

## Operatic seclusion informs longing songs of Zola Jesus

By Elizabeth Hinojos  
Daily Texan Staff

There is a haunting thrill listening to Russian-American singer/songwriter Nika Roza Danilova's voice backed up by layers of goth-wave-gloom-pop generated by synth, drum and

bass. Danilova's musical project Zola Jesus' latest album, *Conatus*, serves as a testament to her musical genius.

*Conatus*, meaning effort or striving in Latin, starts off by implementing the industrial edge

ALBUM continues on PAGE 11



**Conatus**  
Zola Jesus

**Genre:** Lo-Fi, Noise Pop, Ambient, Alternative  
**For those who like:** Bjork, Xiu Xiu, Cold Cave

Grade: A-

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